

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SAIGON 09397 290440 Z

15

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 290315 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2279

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T SAIGON 9397

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID VS JASR

SUBJECT: JAPANESE AID TO VIETNAM

1. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR NARA CALLED ON ME 28 MAY. NARA SAID HE WAS JUST BACK FROM TOKYO AND THAT THANKS PRINCIPALLY TO HIS EFFORTS THE GOJ WAS NOW TAKING A VERY POSITIVE VIEW OF PARTICIPATING IN THE RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM. JAPAN WAS PREPARED TO PROCEED BOTH BILATERALLY AND MULTILATERALLY AND HOPED THE US WOULD TAKE THE LEAD IN CORRALLING AS MANY DONOR NATIONS AS POSSIBLE TO A MEETING IN PARIS IN JUNE.

2. NARA SAID HE WAS DISTURBED BY THE NEGATIVE ATTITUDE OF THE WORLD BANK DELEGATION NOW IN SAIGON. ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT YET MET MR BLOBEL HE HAD SENT WORD TO HIM TO BUCK UP AND SHOW A LITTLE MORE ENTHUSIASM. (NARA IS AN EXTREMELY FORTHRIGHT DIPLOMATIST.) IF BLOBEL WAS TOO NEGATIVE, THEN THE US AND JAPAN SHOULD HAVE HIM REMOVED.

3. I SAID THAT I WAS DELIGHTED THAT JAPAN WAS SO ANXIOUS TO BE OF ASSISTANCE. I WAS SEEING MR BLOBEL 29 MAY AND WOULD REVIEW SITUATION I

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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TOKYO
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